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OUR INTELLIGENCE SET-UP

Recently it has been disturbing to read in the Press statements in regard to the inadequacy of information our country had had in respect of the Chinese Military build-up on our Northern and North-Eastern Frontiers and of the concentration of large bodies of Chinese troops in the near vicinity of our forward troops. We have read in the Press that our gallant soldiers were overwhelmed by sheer weight of numbers and by the use of heavy weapons by the enemy and were so, compelled to withdraw from their forward posts at many places, both in LADAKH and in NEFA, to positions in the rear to re-organise and prepare for the offensive. It is hard to picture how such large bodies of enemy troops could have concentrated as they did without someone seeing all this.

This extraordinary situation indicates that there is urgent need for immediate overhauling of our Intelligence Set-up. There is at the Centre a very elaborate Intelligence Organisation both Civil and Defence. The running of each costs the tax payer very large sums of money every year. What has this organisation been doing whilst the Chinese build-up was going on in such strength under our very eyes and nose? Someone has slept or slipped up.

So I make this fervent appeal to higher authorities in DELHI to get the set-up of our intelligence machinery overhauled immediately. No Commander, be he a Section Commander, or a Corps Commander, or a higher commander, can possibly plan his operations soundly and efficiently unless he has adequate, correct and timely intelligence about the enemy's strength, his weapons and his dispositions.

~~Planning without such information cannot possibly produce successful results.~~ Apart from the operational aspect of it, the Nation should not be deprived of timely information to help our people - industrialists and others to be prepared to keep the "Defence Wheel" moving smoothly and successfully, when hostilities break out

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3 Nov 62